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National Science Week off to a flying start with the Met Office

28 February 2002

The Met Office is helping to get National Science Week off to a flying start across Wales this year. The [Met Office Balloon Challenge](#) will help launch the week-long event from the National Botanic Gardens of Wales and secondary schools across the country on Friday 8 March.

Thousands of children will launch helium-filled balloons from their schools, with the aim of forecasting where they will end up and possibly beating the weather forecasting experts at their own game.

Dave Britton from the Met Office in Cardiff explained "The wind and weather are daily fascinations in our lives and National Science Week gives us a chance at the Met Office to get schools involved in the weather, and help them to realise its importance in our lives and its possible effects. The Met Office Balloon Challenge will be a fun way of showing one way in which forecasters predict the weather."

The Balloon Challenge will take place at secondary schools across Wales as well as at The National Botanic Gardens of Wales, Llanarthne near Carmarthen at 10 a.m. on Friday 8 March.

Also, as part of National Science week, Met Office Cardiff will be posing questions about the weather on BBC Radio Wales's Roy Noble morning show at just after 10 a.m. from Monday 11 March.

As well as being one of the world's leading providers of environmental and weather-related services, the Met Office works to bring science alive for people of all ages. We are delighted to support National Science Week as it brings together schools, the community and industry and, hopefully, encourages more students to become involved in science and possibly follow science careers.

More information about other events happening across the country during National Science Week can be found at www.the-ba.net/nsw

For further information:

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